

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as shown:

Please delete the paragraph on page 3, line 28, to page 4, line 11, and replace it with the following paragraph:

As used herein, "preptin" is an isolated, pure or purified, or substantially pure, peptide of 34 amino acids in length, the sequence of which includes that set out in the below Formula (I), and analogs thereof:

| | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 |
| Asp Val Ser Thr R ₁ R ₂ R ₃ Val Leu Pro Asp R ₄ Phe Pro Arg Tyr Pro Val Gly Lys | | | | |
| | 25 | 30 | | |
| Phe Phe R ₅ R ₆ Asp Thr Trp R ₇ Gln Ser R ₈ R ₉ Arg Leu <u>(SEQ ID NO: 4)</u> Formula (I) | | | | |

wherein R₁ is Ser or Pro, or a conservative variant of either; R₂ is Gln, or Pro or a conservative variant of either; R₃ is Ala or Thr, or a conservative variant of either; R₄ is Asp or Asn, or a conservative variant of either; R₅ is Gln or Lys, or a conservative variant of either; R₆ is Tyr or Phe, or a conservative variant of either; R₇ is Arg or Lys, or a conservative variant of either; R₈ is Ala or Thr, or a conservative variant of either; and R₉ is Gly or Gln, or a conservative variant of either.

Please delete the paragraph on page 5, lines 3-19, and replace it with the following paragraph:

Analog of preptin include functional equivalents of preptin, e.g., functional equivalents of the compounds of Formula (I). In terms of preptin itself, functional equivalents include proteins that are immunologically cross-reactive with and have one or more of the functions of preptin, for example, those having substantially the same function or

functions as preptin (e.g., any of SEQ ID NOs: 1-3). Various preptin analogs include, for example, include C-terminal truncations of preptin, including preptin 1-33 (SEQ ID NO: 5), preptin 1-32 (SEQ ID NO: 6), preptin 1-31 (SEQ ID NO: 7), preptin 1-30 (SEQ ID NO: 8), preptin 1-29 (SEQ ID NO: 9), preptin 1-28 (SEQ ID NO: 10), and preptin 1-27 (SEQ ID NO: 11). Other preptin analogs include, for example, various N-terminal truncations of preptin, including preptin 2-34 (SEQ ID NO: 12), preptin 3-34 (SEQ ID NO: 13), preptin 4-34 (SEQ ID NO: 14), preptin 5-34 (SEQ ID NO: 15), preptin 6-34 (SEQ ID NO: 16), preptin 7-34 (SEQ ID NO: 17), and preptin 8-34 (SEQ ID NO: 18). Others preptin analogs include various fragments having both N-terminal truncations and C-terminal truncations, for example, preptin 2-33 (SEQ ID NO: 19) and preptin 3-32 (SEQ ID NO: 20). Other preptin analogs include peptides including a preptin active site or sites. Still other compounds within the scope of the invention include preptins and preptin analogs having one or more amino acid substitutions, preferably one or more conservative amino acid substitutions. Other preptin analogs include addition and deletion mutants of a preptin or analog thereof, as well as peptides comprising, consisting essentially of, or consisting of, a fusion of a preptin, or a fragment or a mutant thereof, with other amino acids or peptides.

Please insert as a new Section entitled "Sequence Listings" the paper copy of the sequence listings included with this Amendment (pages 1-19).